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IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION

Please amend the following numbered paragraphs in the written description as follows:

[00013] Briefly stated and in accordance with one aspect of this invention, an apparatus for connecting an industrial machine to a communication circuit includes a programmable electrical interface connected to the industrial machine, a programmable data translator coupled to the electrical interface, and a communications port connected to the communications circuit.

[00014] The configuration of the programmable electrical interface and programmable data translator are established through data files referred to herein as personality files that configure the electrical interface and the translator according to the particular machine to which the interface is connected.

[00015] In one configuration, a personality file is interpreted at the time the electrical interface is manufactured to configure the electrical interface to a particular industrial machine. In accordance with this approach, the electrical interface remains configured for a particular machine until the electrical interface is reprogrammed.

[00016] In accordance with another configuration, a plurality of personality files are maintained on the interface device and configuration can take place in the field without the need for a separate personality file interpreter. In accordance with this embodiment, the electrical interface remains configured until a different personality file is interpreted and used to reconfigure the electrical interface.

[00029] Generally, a preferred embodiment for connecting one of a plurality of industrial machines 8 having different data format and storage configurations to a communications medium for remote monitoring and control, includes a programmable interface apparatus 10 having a memory 20 for storing data in predetermined locations and in a predetermined format, and for storing configuration information relating to the at least one of the industrial machines; a configurable electrical interface 30 responsive to the electrical interface configuration information for receiving machine data from the industrial machine 8 and sending data to the industrial machine 8; a data translator 40 responsive to the configuration information, receiving data from the electrical interface and transforming the data to the predetermined format; a processor 50 responsive to the configuration information for reading data from and writing data to the predetermined locations in the memory; and a communications port 60 connected to the communications medium.